



**Charting the Course to 2025:
The County of York Comprehensive Plan Review
Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee**

Meeting Notice

York County Environmental & Development Services Building
105 Service Drive, Yorktown
Monday, November 29, 2004
6:00 PM

Agenda

1. Call to order

2. Hazard Mitigation Plan

York County is working with neighboring jurisdictions to develop a Peninsula Hazard Mitigation Plan that will ultimately be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. The Steering Committee will serve as the County's local planning team responsible for facilitating public input into the mitigation plan and helping to develop goals and implementation strategies. A consultant has been selected for this project and is currently preparing a Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment. Staff will brief the Committee on the hazard mitigation planning process, including the project schedule, public involvement requirements, and the Steering Committee's role.

3. Review of Economic Data

Continuing with the baseline analysis of existing conditions, staff will give a presentation on major economic trends in the County. Jim Noel, Director of Economic Development for York County, will be present to provide additional information and answer questions.

4. Telephone Survey (tentative)

A draft list of questions to be used in the telephone survey will be provided at the meeting for the Steering Committee members' review.

5. Other

6. Adjourn

Attachment

- Meeting Notes of November 15, 2004



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Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Meeting Notes

York County Environmental and Development Services Building
Multi-Purpose Room
105 Service Drive
Monday, November 29, 2004
6:00 PM

Members Present: Nick Barba, Ken Bowman, Jack Christie, Jack Davis, Carole Ferro, A. T. Hamilton, Ron Kurz, Carl Loveland, Rick Moberg, Al Ptasznik, Jenny Rosso, Ralph Smith

Staff Present: Mark Carter, Tim Cross, Amy Parker, Earl Anderson, Jim Noel (Director of Economic Development), Judi Riutort (Deputy Coordinator of Emergency Management)

Chairman Barba called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

Ms. Parker gave a PowerPoint presentation on the hazard mitigation planning process in which York County is participating and which will also involve the Steering Committee. She explained that the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires localities to adopt a hazard mitigation plan in order to continue to receive pre- and post-disaster hazard mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The County is working with James City County and the cities of Hampton, Newport News, and Williamsburg to develop a regional plan; they have hired a consultant who is currently preparing a risk analysis and assessment for the region. Ms. Parker stated that the final product will be a regional hazard mitigation plan that will be incorporated, in an abbreviated form, as an element of the Comprehensive Plan. She explained that the Steering Committee will serve as the County's local planning committee, providing a mechanism for public input into the plan as well as helping to develop goals and implementation strategies for hazard mitigation. Since the time frame and public input processes are basically the same for both the hazard mitigation plan and the Comprehensive Plan update, she explained that it makes sense to avoid duplication of effort by combining the two processes. Although there is no firm external deadline for completing the hazard mitigation plan, the contract with the consultant includes a specific project schedule that calls for all the localities to adopt the plan in September/October 2005, which coincides with the targeted adoption date for the Comprehensive Plan (September 20, 2005).

Mr. Smith asked why Poquoson is not participating in the regional effort, to which Ms. Riutort responded that Poquoson did not want to wait and opted to prepare a plan of its own. In response to a question from Mr. Bowman, Ms. Riutort explained the FEMA grant process and funding criteria.

Mr. Cross gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing County economic trends of the past ten years, including strong growth in retail sales, jobs, and tourism, the combined effect of which has been to increase from 44% to 46% the share of total County tax revenue generated by commercial and industrial development. Mr. Noel added that the retail sales growth is significant because of the large amount of sales tax revenue it generates for the County. Mr. Cross also noted that wage growth in the County has been relatively weak, largely because most of the new jobs created have been in the low-paying service and retail sectors. Mr. Noel stated that

this problem is not unique to York County; most of the job growth nationwide has been in services and retail trade, while the high-paying manufacturing jobs have been in decline, and Mr. Cross added that since 1994 the number of manufacturing jobs has fallen by 8,000 in Hampton Roads and 100,000 across Virginia. Mr. Noel also emphasized the growing importance of tourism, noting the large role of timeshare industry has come to play in the County's economy in recent years. He also noted the challenges the County faces in trying to lure knowledge-based businesses, stating that York County is at a disadvantage relative to Newport News and Hampton because of the lack of large office park environments where such businesses tend to locate. Mr. Davis added that Oyster Point in Newport News encompasses over 700 acres of land. Mr. Christie asked Mr. Noel to provide the Committee with a list of 3-5 ideas that could be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan that would be beneficial for economic development, to which Mr. Noel replied that he would be happy to forward his suggestions for the Committee's consideration.

Mr. Cross distributed copies of a draft list of questions prepared by staff for the telephone survey that will be conducted by the County's survey research consultant firm (Continental Research Associates) within the next few months. Mr. Carter asked the Committee members to review the questions over the next few days and give the staff their suggestions as to any additional questions that should be asked as well as any questions on the list that they feel should *not* be asked. He asked the members to send their comments to the staff by the end of the week (December 3) so that a revised version of the survey can be discussed and finalized at the next meeting (December 8). Once approved by the Steering Committee, the draft survey instrument will be forwarded to the consultant for its review. Mr. Carter added that before the survey is conducted the consultant's interviewers will visit the County in order to familiarize themselves with the area.

Chairman Barba reminded everyone that the Committee's next meeting would be at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, December 8 at the Yorktown Library on Route 17 (8500 George Washington Memorial Highway). A meeting has also been scheduled for 6:00 PM on Thursday, December 16 in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Environmental and Development Services Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

TCC